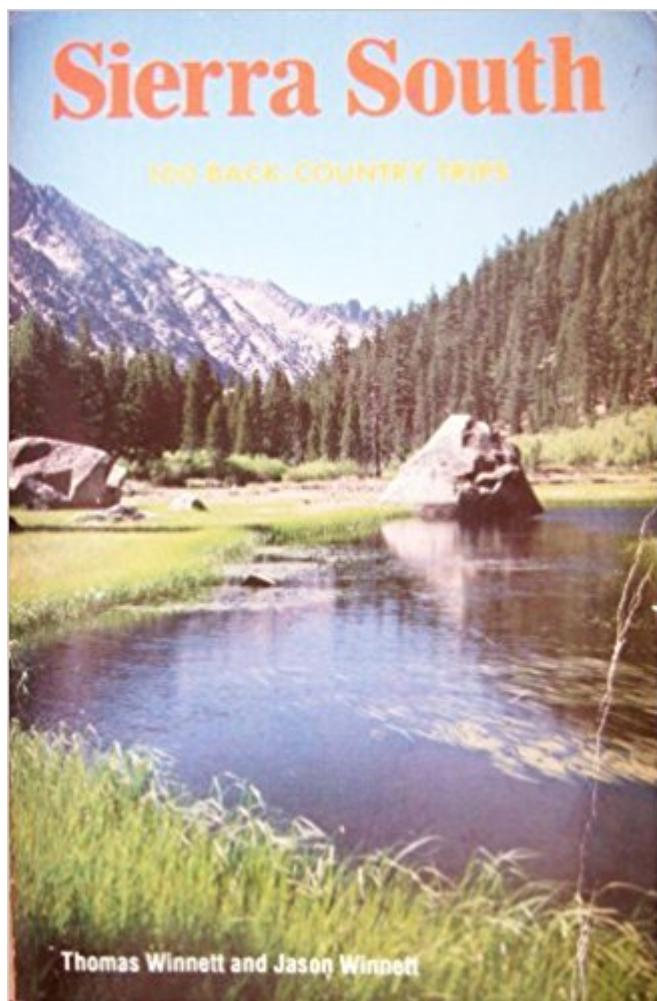


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Sierra South: 100 Back-Country Trips



Synopsis

Here is your guide to the climax region of the High Sierra - the southern half. Hikers come from everywhere to experience the grandeur of Mt. Whitney, the Kings-Kern Divide, the Sierra crest, the high country of Kings Canyon National Park and the John Muir Wilderness. The authors have backpacked over all this grand country in person, and in this book they give you a choice of 100 glorious trips. Each of the 100 trips begins with a description of the trip's highlights, a difficulty grading, total mileage, best season for taking the trip and the names of the topographical maps that cover the trip.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

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I've used this series for over a decade to plan countless trips in the Sierra. As with any trip book, I'd suggest you use it as a starting point and not an "end all be all" to plan every detail of your trip. Fishermen should also validate the "fishing reports" listed as I expect these are generally not updated very often (if ever).

This is a wonderful guidebook with very helpful information about some of the best hikes in the southern Sierra. It's not just a good guidebook, but is also just plain fun to read. The pictures are nice as well. The included map is decent, but could use a little help. I really like how different paces for the hikes are given, leisurely, moderate, and strenuous. Also, information about what season the hike should be taken, early, mid, and late. Also, all the topo maps needed for the hike is given. Introductions to various geographic areas is given as well. One thing I was really disappointed about, though. The description of the Mt. Whitney Trail from Whitney Portal to the summit is pretty poor. I thought they might describe more about the summit, this being the tallest mountain in the contiguous U.S., but maybe I'll have to wait until I get Secour's "High Sierra".

My wife and I are a Volunteer Trail Crew in Los Padres National Forest, Ventana Wilderness. We maintain 12 miles of the Pine Ridge Trail, and spur trails, between Big Sur Ranger Station and Sykes Hot springs (with lots of help from friendly hikers). I also have a full time day job so my leisure time is very precious. I enjoy exploring new areas for backpacking and camping but I want others to do the legwork and report the best trails, so I rely on good trail books. Sierra South covers selected better trails in Sequoia National Park, Kings Canyon National Park and John Muir Wilderness. It meets most of my demands for identifying the better hikes to explore in a convenient easy to use book. It provides good directions to the trailhead and good descriptions of the trails, camps and attractions along the way. It provides a description of how strenuous the hikes are and has a neat graph to show the gain and loss of altitude over the distance for each trail. It has a small "take out" folded map showing the trails and trailheads and it has a convenient table summarizing information on all the trails to help with your selection. It is small enough to carry on a backpacking trip. I use it and I recommend it for others. On the down side: Updates to trail information is provided on a page in the back of the book (easy to overlook/forget). The map does not have elevation contours (you still need to buy a contour map). The description of how to use the altitude gain and loss graph is located in the Maps chapter (hard to find) instead of in the Introduction chapter with the other information on how to use this book. There is no small single page map showing the general location of all the trails; therefore, you must take out and unfold the larger map each time you want to check a location. There is a companion book titled "Sierra North".

Book came very quickly. Service was really excellent!

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